

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A storage library for recording and retrieving information from a plurality of storage media cartridges, [wherein each storage media cartridge has a label side,] the storage library comprising:

a housing having a left side, a right side, a front side, and a back side;

a left plurality of slots disposed proximate the left side of the housing for holding some of the plurality of storage media cartridges;

a right plurality of slots disposed proximate the right side of the housing for holding some of the plurality of storage media cartridges;

at least one media drive disposed proximate the back side of the housing[, the at least one media drive being operative to receive one storage media cartridge of the plurality of storage media cartridges through a port]; and

a robotic mechanism disposed between the left multitude of slots and the right multitude of slots, the robotic mechanism being operative to move the plurality of cartridges between the plurality of slots and the at least one media drive, wherein the robotic mechanism comprises:

a picker assembly operative to insert and remove at least one storage media cartridge of the plurality of storage media cartridges from the left plurality of slots, the right plurality of slots, and the at least one media drive;

a first linear carriage operative to move the picker assembly along a first path approximately perpendicular to the back side of the housing; and

a second linear carriage operative to move the picker assembly from a position which allows access to at least one of the left multitude of slots to a position which allows access to at least one of the right multitude of slots.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (New) In a storage library for recording and retrieving information from a plurality of storage media cartridges, the storage library comprising a left plurality of slots disposed proximate a left side of the housing for holding some of the plurality of storage media cartridges, a right plurality of slots disposed proximate a right side of the housing for holding some of the plurality of storage media cartridges, and at least one media drive disposed proximate the back side of the housing, a method comprising the steps of:

transporting a robotic mechanism along a first linear carriage disposed between the left plurality of slots and the right plurality of slots to move along a first path approximately perpendicular to a back side of the housing; and

transporting the robotic mechanism along a second linear carriage to move the robotic mechanism from a position which allows access to at least one of the left multitude of slots to a position which allows access to at least one of the right multitude of slots.

15. (new) The method of Claim 14, further comprising the step of rotating a carriage, disposed on the second linear carriage, between the left plurality of slots, the right plurality of slots, and the at least one media drive.

16. (new) The method of Claim 15, further comprising the steps of inserting and removing at least one storage media cartridge of the plurality of storage media cartridges from the left plurality of slots, the right plurality of slots, and the at least one media drive by a picker assembly disposed on the carriage.